



Haslett Community Church
United Church of Christ

Christmas Eve 2022
7:00 PM & 9:00 PM

We strive joyfully and prayerfully to warmly welcome all, freely share our blessings, and humbly explore God's love.

haslettcommunitychurch.org

P.O. Box 217 · 1427 Haslett Rd.
Haslett, MI 48840

517.339.8383

hcc1@att.net

We strive to ensure that all are comfortable worshipping with us. Therefore, we:

- Offer three ways to worship: in our Sanctuary, from your car in our south lot (radio to 88.7 FM - turn up your volume) and via livestream ([see website for details](#)).
- Provide large print worship bulletins and hearing assist receivers in the sanctuary upon request – an usher would be happy to help you
- Have a building that is barrier free with accessible restrooms. Gender neutral bathrooms are downstairs and are accessible by stairs and elevator.
- Are an Open & Affirming Church which means we welcome and affirm persons of every gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, ability, age, race, nationality, economic status, faith background, marital status, or family structure.

Three Ways to Worship
Sundays at 10:00 am



1. In person
2. Parking lot (car radio on 88.7FM)
3. Remotely (via YouTube)

The church office is open for On-site Office Hours Tuesday & Thursday 10:30am - 1:00pm.

Pastor Betsy is in the office Tue-Fri. Appointments recommended, or come for her drop-in office hours on Wednesdays from 11:30am - 1:00pm.

We love to see you, so please stop by!

Your staff continues to be available to serve you by email and phone outside these on-site hours as well.

We welcome families and households of every size and age and want children to know they are welcome here. Therefore, we:

- Don't mind when children wiggle and make noise in church-your whole family is welcome here! We also have nursery care downstairs staffed by safety-trained volunteers.
- Have preschool through 5th Graders begin each week in worship, and then offer Sunday School following the Children's Moment most weeks
- Have vibrant and active middle and high school youth groups for 6th-12th graders

Our Vision:

*We strive joyfully and prayerfully to warmly welcome all, freely share our blessings,
and humbly explore God's love.*

Christmas Eve 2022
7:00 and 9:00 pm

*You are invited to say the **bolded phrases aloud**, and to stand where an * is indicated, as you are able.*

Gathering

Welcome

Prelude

“O Holy Night” Adam
(Sophie Kirchoff, soloist) arr. Daigle/Foster/Galbraith

Call to Worship

Friends and family, siblings in Christ, come and hear the good news!

The one who was promised will be born this night, a savior born as a human to live among us!

Angels proclaim the glory of God, the merciful one who sent us God's Son.

A gift from heaven, sent from God, yet born as a human to show us the way!

Shepherds shout and dance for joy, for the Prince of Peace is alive and well.

A baby wrapped in cloths, lying in a manger, born as a human to understand us!

Mary ponders these things in her heart, imagining his life and calling.

Immanuel, God with us, yet breathing and sleeping, laughing and crying, born as a human to seek and save the lost.

Friends and family, siblings in Christ, come and hear the good news!

Jesus Christ is born. Come, let us worship!

***Hymn**

“Oh Come, All Ye Faithful”

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above
Come and behold him, born the King of angels Glory to God, all glory in the highest

REFRAIN:

REFRAIN

O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to thee be all glory given
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing

REFRAIN

Lighting the Christ Candle:

The season of Advent reminds us of the hope we have in the humanity of Jesus. God came to us, leaving behind the glory of heaven to be a person feeling pain, joy, loss, and love.

We light the candle of hope because in Jesus, heaven came to earth.

Light the first candle.

Advent reminds us the Prince of Peace came and lived among us. He felt stress within himself and conflict with other people, yet he chose his path of peace — peace within himself, and peace with humankind.

We light the candle of peace because Jesus showed us how to live in peace.

Light the second candle.

There is joy in the anticipation of the Advent season. Just as Mary waited for the birth of her son, we count the weeks and days to celebrate Christmas. Waiting makes space for imagination and preparation, and joy fills our hearts in that waiting.

We light the candle of joy because joy is in the promise that the holy one is coming.

Light the third candle.

Love is the purpose, the reason, the source. Love is the all-in-all of Advent and Christmas. Without love, Christmas is just a resounding carol, a clanging jingle bell. But love transforms us into joyful participants in the great story of a wondrous birth.

We light the candle of love because God so loved the world that God sent Jesus.

Light the fourth candle.

If you pay attention, Christmas has a smell, a taste, a sound, a look, and a feel. You can experience Christmas with all your senses. Christmas reminds us Jesus experienced life in a human body. With his body, he could smell, taste, touch, hear, and see.

We light the Christ candle because God is not just a distant, invisible being. Jesus showed us God is close to us, even on earth.

Light the Christ candle.

Prayer:

Loving God, we rejoice and celebrate that after the long wait, Jesus Christ is born.

His birth demonstrates your love for us, your concern for our daily lives, and your presence in our earthly experiences.

When Jesus came, the realm of heaven enveloped us, and your will was done on earth, just as it is in heaven. Now, we image-bearers of Christ - made in flesh, mind, and spirit - labor for your holy purposes of love and justice.

Hallelujah and glory to God! We are not alone. Amen.

Hymn Response

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn king:
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”

Joyful all ye nations rise; Join the triumph of the skies,
With angelic hosts proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

REFRAIN: Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the new-born king”

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin’s womb;
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity,
Pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel.

REFRAIN

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in His wings.
Mild he lays His glory by, born that we no more may die.
Born to raise us from the earth, Born to give us second birth.

REFRAIN

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 9: 2-4, 6-7

²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. ³You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁶For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Anthem

“Were You There On That Christmas Night?”

Sleeth

Were you there, were you there on that Christmas night,
when the world was filled with a holy light?

Were you there to behold, when the wonder foretold came to earth?

Did you see, did you see how they hailed Him King,
with the gifts so rare that they chose to bring?

Did you see how they bowed, as they praised Him aloud at His birth?

(continued)

Did you hear how the choirs of angels sang
at the glory of the sight?
Did you hear how the bells of heaven rang all through the night?
Did you know, did you know it was God's own Son,
the salvation of the world begun?
Did you know it was love, that was sent from above to the earth?
Were you there?

Scripture Reading

Luke 2: 1-7

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place in the guest room shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Hymn

“Oh Little Town of Bethlehem”

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth!
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to all on earth!

Children's Moment (7pm) / Passing the Peace (9pm)

Scripture Reading

Luke 2: 8-12

Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.”

Hymn

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.
Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.
Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.
Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!

Scripture Reading

Luke 2: 13-19

¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them, ¹⁹ and Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.

Hymn

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, echo back their joyous strains.
Glo----ri-a in ex-cel-sis De-o, Glo----ri-a in ex-cel-sis De-o.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be, which inspire your heavenly song.
Glo----ri-a in ex-cel-sis De-o, Glo----ri-a in ex-cel-sis De-o.

Come to Bethlehem and see Christ whose birth the angels sing:
Come adore on bended knee, God our world now entering.
Glo----ri-a in ex-cel-sis De-o, Glo----ri-a in ex-cel-sis De-o.

Sermon

“What Are You Doing Here?”

Hymn

“Joy to the World”

Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth receive her King
Let every heart prepare him room,
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns; let all their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness
And wonders of his love, and wonders of his love
And wonders, wonders of his love.

Invitation to Share Tithes and Offerings

Offertory (7pm)

“Twas In the Moon of Wintertime”/
“What Child Is This?”
(Ambrose Meteyer, cello)

UNE JEUNE PUCELL/
GREENSLEEVES

(9pm)

“The Snow Lay on the Ground”

Italian folk melody

***Doxology**

Praise God with songs that never cease;
Praise God who fills the earth with peace;
Praise God for love and joy within;
The Holy Child is born again. Amen.

Prayers for the People and the Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Candlelight Vigil and Silent Night

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant so tender and mild.
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight.
Glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

***Benediction**

Postlude

“Christmas Medley”

arr. BFF

Special thanks to Sophie Kirchoff and Ambrose Meteyer for sharing their musical gifts with us tonight.

Merry Christmas!



We thank all who sponsored poinsettias. Plants may taken after the 9 PM service.

Poinsettias were given ...

In Memory Of

Max & Irmie Neils, from Kris Belonge
Steve Booher (Dad), from Michele Booher & Bob Purosky
Rha & Ruth Arnold and Nicholas & Florence Connelly (parents), from Judy Connelly
Rose, Hobert, Lawrence, & Erna (parents), from Carol & Bob Cramer
James, Florence, James Jr., & Cynthia (family), from Cheryl Edwards
Our parents, from Don & Kelly Flagg
Dave Fry, from Paula Fry
Robert & Elaine Westveer and Charles & Marcile Garrod, from Mark & Sally Garrod
Maryann & Gerard Mahon, from the Mahon family
Mary Nelson and daughter Shelly, from Tom Nelson
Richard Sr. & Peg Newport and James Cody (parents), from Liz & Rich Newport
Our parents, from Ron & Cathy Rowe
Those who are gone but never forgotten, from Rebecca Reagan & Susan Schwaderer
Juanita & Tom DeFord and Dean & HuDean Stewart, from Carolyn Solomon
Christy Rahl-Letts, from Barb Szkotnicki
Our parents, from John & Mary Trebilcock
Aunt Sheila & Uncle Bill, from Russ & Lynn Wilson

In Honor Of

Sylvia & Wally Aho, Phil's parents, for their 52nd wedding anniversary, from Phil & Betsy Aho
HCC, from Cindy Meteyer
Betty Cody (parent), from Rich and Liz Newport

Ministry Connections
Reaching Out to Each Other and Our Community
December 24, 2022



We heartily welcome all to our service of worship.

May the comfort and challenge of God's loving presence renew and inspire you this morning and throughout the coming week.



Follow us on Facebook
 Haslett Community Church

CHURCH CALENDAR (December 24 - January 1)

Saturday 12/24/2022	5:00 PM 7:00 PM 9:00 PM	Christmas Eve #1 (PL, Online) Christmas Eve #2 (S,PL,Online) Christmas Eve #3 (S,PL,Online)
Sunday 12/25/2022 Christmas Day	10:00 AM	Worship (S, PL, Online) <i>A creative service of prayer, poetry, and scripture</i>
Monday 12/26/2022	Christmas Day Observed	OFFICE CLOSED
Tuesday 12/27/2022	10:30 AM - 1PM	Onsite Office Hours (Ofc)
Wednesday 12/28/2022	11:30 AM - 1PM	Betsy Office Hours (Ofc)
Thursday 12/29/2022	9:00 AM 10:30 AM	Sermon Preview Grp (Z) HCC Onsite Office Hours (Ofc)
Saturday 12/31/2022 New Year's Eve	9:00 AM	Men's Grp Meets (Z)
Sunday 01/01/2023 New Year's Day	10:00 AM	Worship (ONLINE ONLY)

Legend: FH= Fellowship Hall; FP= Food Pantry; Fr = Friendship Hall; L=Library; MM= Mary & Marth's; Ofc=HCC Office; PL=Parking Lot ; S=Sanctuary; SS=Sunday School Rooms (downstairs); YR=Youth Rm; Z=Zoom

Haslett Community Church welcomes You!

If you are visiting, please take a purple dove cup with a sweet treat and helpful information on your way out!

We worship every Sunday at 10:00 am.



Our Christmas Day service is tomorrow, Sunday, December 25 at 10am. You are invited to join us in person or by livestream [HERE](#).

Next Sunday's New Year's Day service will be ONLINE ONLY. Stay tuned for the link.

Thank you for continuing to support Haslett Community Church as you are able. We receive your gifts with gratitude. We have some no-touch options to help make your giving easy and safe:

- Use your phone camera to scan the QR code below to access our Online Giving.
- Text GIVE to our secure giving number:
517-200-3995
- PayPal us at:
HCCgenerosity@gmail.com



We are so grateful for your generosity!

The Staff:

Rev. Betsy Aho	Pastor	aho.betsy@att.net	517.339.8383 x11
Rev. Erin Heisler	Minister for Youth & Children	erin.heisler@att.net	517.339.8383 x19
Barbara Freeman	Church Musician		517.881.9976
Michele Booher	Office Manager	hcc1@att.net	517.339.8383 x10
Sally Sanchez	Custodian		

Our thanks this evening to:**Reader:**

Greeters: 7pm: Sylvia Davis, Sophie Kirchoff, Tom Nelson
9pm: Sylvia Davis

Ushers: 7pm: Sylvia Davis, Sophie Kirchoff, Tom Nelson
9pm: Jim Durr & Sylvia Davis

Audio/Visual Techs: 7pm: Helen & David Jones
9pm: Rich Newport

Tellers 9pm: Sylvia Davis & Bob Heisler

Special thanks to Sophie Kirchoff and Ambrose Meteyer for sharing their musical gifts with us tonight.

Permission to reprint music and words from sources other than The New Century Hymnal is granted under CCLI License # 1340749 or by special permission.

Thank you for worshipping with us! If you are visiting, or would like to know more about Haslett Community Church, you are invited to:

- Take a “Purple Dove Cup” for your household on your way out – it has some helpful info and a treat inside.
- Fill out a “Welcome!” card available in the seat in front of you, and drop it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher so that we might be in touch with you in the ways you indicate would be helpful.
- Ask questions if you have them; our Pastors, ushers, and the people sitting around you are great sources of information and are happy to help you feel comfortable here.

No matter who you are, or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome at Haslett Community Church where we strive to welcome everyone with the same unconditional hospitality demonstrated by the love of God in Christ for all people.

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